

CITY ASKS; "WHY, WHY DID HE DO IT?"

It is difficult as best to fathom the mysterious workings of a man's mind when he is alive, but hundreds of residents in North Torrance this week were attempting to probe the mind of Arthur E. England who shot and killed his wife and then blew his head off.

Shocked and stunned by the double tragedy that made orphans of the two children, the residents in the area around the England's home at 3634 W. 177 st., sought out each other this week as they tried to piece together the reasons for the murder and suicide.

Torrance police, and friends and associates with whom England worked as a mechanical engineer at Northrup Aircraft in Hawthorne, and with whom he sang in the First Baptist Church choir, also groped for an understanding.

WHY, WHY, WHY

"Why would a man who has a good job, a fine home, a wonderful family and no financial problems do a thing like that?" was the question asked by hundreds of baffled city residents since the trag-

edy became known Thursday afternoon.

What was pieced together was a sad and sobering story of two lives caught up in a growing turmoil. The bitterness and frustrations that came were bottled up, away from the view of neighbors and associates.

The 37-year old Northrup engineer that neighbors, fellow workmen, and fellow members of the Baptist Church choir saw was a gregarious, easy-going man. He was a kind, generous and loving father to his two children, Melissa, 6, and Timothy, 3. He was a considerate, thoughtful husband to his 31-year old wife, Mary. He was a hard-working, thorough and careful craftsman at the Northrup plant.

He would get up every morning to feed and clothe the children and give his wife a chance to get a few more hours of sleep. He never failed to phone his wife after choir practice, or when he worked late at night, or when he attended engineering meetings, to tell her when he was coming home.

But, he expected consider-

ation and recognition in return. He didn't get it.

ALWAYS STUDIED

On his job, he was hampered by a deficiency in mathematical training and experience. He went to school nights to make up for his lack of advanced math. He poured over math books every spare moment he had at home. He even took the math books with him when he went on a hunting trip in September.

He worked on secret super-sonic devices connected with missiles, and took that work home with him every night. In every corner of the three-bedroom house, police found reams of paper on which England worked his formulas and mathematical problems. His wife would work far into the night typing the computations for him so that he would be prepared at work the next morning.

He conferred constantly with men who had superior mathematical knowledge and attempted to absorb their knowledge through lengthy sessions over endless cups of coffee.

He was a restless, inquisitive man who took nothing for granted, not even the word

and experience of his superiors on the job, nor the findings of noted ballistic and missile experts in this country or the world. He had to prove things to himself, and he polished his formulas and experimented constantly to test his theories.

INVENTOR

His work bore fruit in at least one instance. He built a device to take the pulse of supersonic ballistic missiles and jets as they warmed up for a takeoff. He felt, however, that proper recognition for his work had not been forthcoming.

By recognition, he did not mean financial rewards. He was satisfied with the amount of money he was drawing from Northrup every month. He wanted more responsible work in the plant, work in which he was the one to make decisions. He didn't get the advancement to the decision-making level.

After particularly frustrating experience at work, England would drop in to a neighbor's house and complain bitterly about his disappointments and dissatisfactions.

"I'd rather have a job digging ditches," he told one neighbor last week.

His frustrations on the job were reflected in similar experiences at home. Mary, his wife, from a home in which the woman was the dominant figure, organized his life and the life of the household on a stopwatch basis. Dinner and other routine family gatherings were always at the same time, every day.

EFFICIENCY, PLUS

She was cool, efficient and domineering. She had to be, to balance off the restlessness and tenseness in her husband. She accompanied him rarely on hunting trips and vacations, and when she went to company outings with him, was impatient to return home.

England's troubles apparently came to a head about two weeks ago, according to some of his associates at Northrup. They noticed a drastic change in him, and advised him to take a vacation. He began to make preparations for a two-week hunting trip, and sought a trailer to rent for the trip.

He invited his brother-in-law, Leonard Jackola, to come from Chicago and join him. His brother-in-law arrived Wednesday morning, and Mr.

and Mrs. England met him at Union Station with their two children.

At the same time, however, he was making arrangements to go to a psychiatrist for assistance. The consultation had been advised by one of his closest working associates who felt that England was coming close to a nervous breakdown.

England agreed to be at the psychiatrist's office Thursday morning. But he also agreed to go off on the hunting trip with his brother-in-law on Thursday morning.

Only his wife knew about the two sets of arrangements he had made, and she probably mentioned them to him. But England told his close friend nothing about his contemplated hunting trip, and did not tell his brother-in-law about his appointment with the psychiatrist.

Torrance Police Department Chief of Detectives, Capt. Ernie Ashton, reconstructed England's activities during Wednesday from information related to him by neighbors.

Ashton said England apparently decided to make quick preparations for his

hunting trip sometime after-noon Wednesday. He went to a trailer rental company, and instead of renting a trailer, bought one instead. He went home, opened the family strong-box, took out bonds and other negotiable papers, went to the bank to get cash in return and went back to the trailer company to pay cash for the vehicle.

England returned home about 8 p.m. to dropped in to see his next door neighbor to tell him about the trailer. He apparently left the neighbor's house and went on a shopping spree, filling his car with canned foodstuffs and other food supplies.

He had left a jacket, containing \$2,100 in cash, to take with him the next morning. His wife discovered the money in his pocket and called England's close friend.

"I'm afraid Arthur is going to leave me," she told the friend. She expressed her fears that he was leaving the family without a penny. The friend advised her to hide the money, and promised to call later in the evening.

At 11 p.m., the friend called to learn that England had not as yet returned home. Mrs.

England told her husband's friend that she was going to bed.

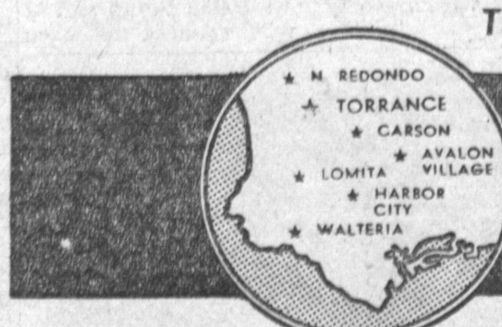
Capt. Ashton theorized that England returned home about midnight, parked his car and trailer, now loaded with food, near the house, and then came into his silent house.

From then on, all is mystery. All that is known is that England placed three piles of money on the dresser table, went to the garage to obtain the German Mauser rifle, placed it near his wife's chest as she was sleeping, and fired one shot into her body. She died instantly, and never knew what hit her, according to Capt. Ashton.

England then took a butcher knife he had brought into the bedroom with him, and attempted to cut his throat. Perhaps unwilling for slow death to come upon him, he placed the rifle beneath his chin and pulled the trigger with his thumb.

His body was found stretched on the floor in the blood bespattered bedroom. His wife's body was found on the bed by police called to the house Thursday afternoon by Leonard Jackola.

The reasons may never be found.



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OMITA SINGER, Ronnie Deauville, and his wife, Pat, are presented on the Ralph Edwards V show, "This Is Your Life." The appearance resulted in a tremendous sale of Deauville's

Lomita Singer, a Polio Victim, Gets Big Boost on TV Show

Confined to a wheel chair as a result of a polio attack last year, a young Lomita singer, Ronnie Deauville, of 218 Harbor Hills project, found life brighter and easier this week.

Deauville appeared on the Ralph Edwards "This Is Your Life" TV program November 6 and since then has:

- Seen his record album, "Smoke Dreams" become a major hit;

- Received offers to sing on the Jerry Lewis Show, and make night club appearances;

- Been offered the services of a prominent Los Angeles neurosurgeon without charge.

Edwards touched off the appeal that has resulted in the largest single sale of a record album in the history of the record industry.

The album was recorded by Deauville, three days before he contracted clinical polio on October 2, 1955.

10,000 SHIPPED

A spokesman for Era Records, who released the album, estimates that requests received from dealers have passed the half million mark. The company is working around the clock to fill all orders, and, with a production of 7,000 records a day, expects to have shipped 70,000 records by the end of the week.

According to Era this is the largest selling album in the history of the record industry. A 100,000 sale has always been regarded as a major album "hit." Based on early requests it is estimated that the album sale might reach the million mark.

The Ralph Edwards production staff spent most of the night calling disc jockeys across the nation asking their aid in promoting the album's sale.

The program was seen by a prominent Los Angeles neurosurgeon who offered his services, free of charge, to aid Deauville. The singer had been unable to afford the specialized medical attention necessary to effect a chance for recovery.

BAND SINGER

The 32-year-old Deauville had been on his way to a successful career as a popular singer when hit by illness. He had appeared with Glen Grey and Tex Bencke as a band vocalist and last year made his first record album, "Smoke Dreams" for Era Records.

Deauville, placed in the McKinley Home for Boys as a youth, when his mother was unable to support him, has been plagued by setbacks most of his life.

As a Navy flying student in 1942, he cracked up on his solo flight, severely injuring his leg and was forced to spend most of his service in the San Diego Naval hospital.

It was there that a doctor suggested that he take up singing, principally for its therapeutic value.

He was forced to work in the boiler room of the Waldorf Astoria Hotel in New York when he couldn't find a singing job following the war.

His work with bands enabled him to support his wife and four

children, but the work was spotty during the lean years for orchestras.

POLIO ATTACK

Just one day prior to his polio attack he was in an automobile accident and it was in the hospital that he was diagnosed as a polio case.

Edwards told his life story and presented to Deauville a specially outfitted automobile for his needs.

On hand for the Edwards show were Deauville's wife, Pat, and three of their four children; Nancy, 9; Judy, 6, and Elvira, 5. David, 8, was away at school. The children all attend schools in Lomita where the family has been living for the past two years.

Deauville and his wife were in Palm Springs this week where the singer was fulfilling an engagement at the El Mirador Hotel. He is to appear on the Jerry Lewis show on December 27, and has received offers to sing on shows presented by Perry Como and Steve Allen.

Rubbish Collectors Off Thanksgiving

Torrance's Street and Park Department, in another attempt to clear up the confusion that results when holidays roll around, said this week that rubbish collections will be made a day after Thanksgiving.

The department takes only two holidays during the year, Thanksgiving and Christmas day. Collections ordinarily scheduled for those days will be made a day later.

CITY BREATHES EASIER AS CHILD-KILLER IS FOUND

Tartars Bow to Samohi; Place 2nd in League

By DICK RICE

Coming from behind twice to erase Santa Monica's lead, the Torrance Tartars could not roll up more offensive steam and bowed to the Vikings 20 to 13 Friday night before an overflow crowd of 13,000 fans.

Santa Monica, with its victory, became undisputed Bay League champions, and Torrance clinched second place in league standings.

The game opened with fireworks as the Tartars received the kickoff and punted to Santa Monica four plays later. Samohi then took three plays from scrimmage to push across the game's first score. The conversion attempt was wide.

Seconds later on the kickoff to Torrance, Tartar halfback "Butch" White tucked the ball away and hustled 85 yards for a TJS touchdown. The Tartars went ahead 7-6 on Jack Tippen's perfect conversion.

The ball changed hands twice after the kickoff and the Vikings finally retained the ball on a pass interception on the Tartar's 30. From there fullback Ron Kinton raced around left

end for 30 yards and another Santa Monica score. The conversion was good, and Samohi led 13-7.

The Tartars weren't through yet. Later in the second quarter Torrance tied the game up again, scoring from the seven yard line on a pass by Veres to White. Tippen missed the conversion and the score remained 13 all.

Before the half ended the Vikings scored the game's last and most important T.D. on a line plunge by A. J. Bailey. The extra point was good, the score-board read 20-13.

The second half was completely scoreless in contrast to the wild first. Torrance showed good ball control until inside the Viking's 30, where they lost the ball several times. The Tartar defense held Samohi down for the rest of the game also.

Torrance coaches Dick Turner and Irwin Kasten have guided the Tartars to the most successful season since they joined the Bay League in 1948. The previous high spot was third place which was notched by the 1954 team.

Seniors at North High to Present Play This Week

The Senior Class of North High school will present a melodrama, "Angel Street," on November 20, 21 and 23 in the school Cafeteria.

The play, which is double-cast, stars Jenny Alexander and Mary Ann Schmitt as the long-suffering wife and Jerry Hedges and Lee Ruecker as the husband who tries to drive her insane.

Other members of the two casts include Bob McHugh, Mike Schneider, Beth Giebler, Diane Hodges, Diana Bybee, Lennie Gedwell, Jeff Lindsey and Jim Warnemunde.

Curtain time will be at 8 p.m. General admission is 75 cents for adults and 35 cents for children under twelve. Advance sale tickets are now available; a limited number will be sold at the door.

ANOTHER SHOPPER HITS PAY DIRT IN MONDAY DRAWING

Another shopper in the downtown Torrance area hit payday during the Monday Gold Rush Days being conducted by the Downtown Retail Merchant's Association.

Winner of the \$100 prize awarded to the holder of the lucky ticket last week was Louis Argueta, of 302 W. Carson st.

The winner of this Monday's drawing will be chosen by the merchants in front of the Torrance Hardware Co. store, 1513 Cabrillo ave., at 7 p.m. Holders of these lucky tickets must be 21 or older and must be present to win.

Tickets are obtainable from any downtown merchant. When you're downtown shopping, ask for your ticket.



VOICE OF DEMOCRACY CONTEST WINNERS. Jim Hawkins, South High sophomore and Roberta Terheggen, North High sophomore, grin as Voice of Democracy winner Bob Brooks, 15, also a South High sophomore, holds his first prize trophy aloft. The contest, conducted by the Torrance Junior Chamber of Commerce, was viewed by 100 people in Thursday's finals at the Armory. Judges of the contest were: Bob White, secretary of the Toastmaster's Club; Joe Hensel, past president of the club; and Barnett Ferguson, of the El Camino College Dramatic Department.

Captured in Reno; Confesses Murder

The five-day long search for the killer of 22-month old Laura Wetzel ended Friday with the arrest in Reno of 15-year old John Miller who confessed killing the child because he "wanted to see what it felt like."

With his arrest, the entire area breathed easier. The youth had eluded several police dragnets, beginning Monday when he fled from a Rolling Hills Estates home where he had murdered the child.

The youth sought to shift the blame for his crime to his father. When questioned by Reno police to whom he readily confessed, Miller said: "My first compulsion to kill, I know now, may have been because my father beat me when I was little."

He couldn't remember when the actual beating took place, but seemed to feel that this had a direct bearing on his senseless and brutal murder of the helpless 22-month old child.

Miller told police how he stole a bicycle from a Rolling Hills Estates home and made his way to Redondo Beach. There he stole a car, and drove to San Francisco where he stole another car. He drove that to San Mateo, and stole still another vehicle, went up to Oregon with it, and turned back to Reno when he struck snow.

A hitchhiker whom he picked up on his way to Reno, notified police.

Youth Band Asks City Grant \$5,000 for Trip

An appeal for \$5000 to insure participation of Torrance's 82-member Youth Band in the Mid-West National Band Clinic in Chicago was made to the city council Friday.

"We come to you," James Van Dyck, the band's director, told the council, "because it is not weeks nor days but only hours when we must face and make vital decisions."

Van Dyck said \$20,000 was required to send the band to the music convention. The band is the only one in the west to be invited to perform.

He told city council members that the band's original estimate of \$25,000 to finance the trip had been cut to \$20,000 when

some personnel was trimmed and special rates obtained on food and lodging.

"To date," he said, "our band members, parents and Citizens committee have been able to accumulate over \$12,000 of this amount."

"The parents are making further pledges, but we are still short about \$5000."

"We respectfully ask this amount from the City of Torrance so we can make final and complete preparations for this event," Van Dyck wrote.

He added: "We want to make this trip the crowning achievement of the year for the 'All-America City.' We want to assure you a dollar each within the next few days we will not be required to ask the council for public funds," he said. She requested residents to mail their contributions to Postmaster, Torrance.

City Chest Campaign Nears \$19,887 Goal

Three hundred and seventy Community Chest campaign volunteers who jammed the Plush Horse Restaurant in Redondo Beach, Thursday, for the campaign report luncheon, learned that the Harbor Area has attained 67.17 percent of its quota of \$86,858 and leads the four other Associated Cities Areas by six percent.

Jay A. Robinson, Harbor Area campaign chairman, was master of ceremonies for the luncheon and called on the city chairmen to report the progress of their cities.

Torrance, under the leadership of Glenn Koger, was lead-

ing with 79.06 of their quota of \$19,887; Gardena, second, 77.19, quota \$15,945; Harbor City-Lomita third, 71.56 quota \$2,676; Santa Pedro, fourth, 67.13, quota \$19,222; Palos Verdes, fifth, 56.56, quota \$7,724; Rolling Hills, sixth, 53.21, quota \$5,630; and Wilmington seventh, 51.51, quota \$15,773.

The entire L.A. Area has raised 41.52 of their quota of \$4,276,383.

For being chairman of the first city to have 100 percent enrollment of workers, James Munson, Harbor City-Lomita city chairman, received the Ira Kaye trophy.